NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION

Information Letter

FOR N. C. A. MEMBERS

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Canned Foods Week Campaign Speeds Up

The local Canned Foods Week Committees, over five hundred in number, are making things hum, to judge from the requests coming to the National Committee for display materials, souvenir banks, luncheon menus, speech materials, advertising suggestions, publications on canned foods for the use of teachers of cooking, and other aids in putting on the campaign.

There will be an unusually large volume of advertising in local newspapers, and many of the local committees have interested the dailies in their cities in carrying special stories on canned foods prior to the opening of the Week. Arrangements have been made for placing Canned Foods Week cards in practically all the street cars and busses in the New England district, and similar arrangements are being effected elsewhere. Billboard advertising by use of the large size posters will also be a feature in many markets.

A number of radio addresses have already been scheduled. Mrs. Julian Heath will broadcast each morning at 10 o'clock during Canned Foods Week from Stations WJZ at New York and WRC at Washington. The National Committee expects later to issue a list of the radio talks scheduled so that canners and others who are interested may be able to tune in on the addresses.

The local committee in New York has received a letter from the Broad Street Hospital in that city offering to cooperate in the observance of the Week by serving a canned foods luncheon for the entire hospital staff and for all patients in the hospital. Such support, it is pointed out, coming from an institution to which the public naturally looks for guidance in dietary affairs, is proof indeed that canned foods possess all the requirements of the most delicate taste or constitution.

Canners are again urged to give every assistance in their power to the local committees in their districts. Practically every canner should be able to assist them by arranging for a special display of his products—which will be a distinct help to the local committees and at the same time an excellent bit of publicity for his own products.

Canning Crops Experiments at New York Agricultural Experiment Station

About fifty canners and their field men gathered at the New York Agricultural Experiment Station at Geneva on Monday, October 19, to inspect a fertilizer and variety test of fall spinach. The experiments are on a tract of 60 acres obtained by the Station for use in connection with canning crops studies. While the spinach was not far enough advanced at the time of the inspection to make possible trustworthy conclusions, from the 188 fertilizer plots included in the test it seemed apparent that the outstanding results were being secured from fertilizers carrying a high percentage of nitrogen.

In the strain and variety test 47 different strains of spinach are being grown, including several strains each of most of the varieties which are used by canners in all parts of the country. As this work progresses canners and growers in New York State will have the benefit of much more reliable information on the strains and types than has been available heretofore.

Following inspection of the field experiments on spinach, the visitors were shown some of the research work in progress on the seed-borne blight of peas, a disease which is newly recognized as being potentially serious in New York and other pea-canning regions.

Federal Trade Commission Asks Court's Aid in Enforcing Order

The Federal Trade Commission has filed application in the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit at Chicago for enforcement of its order against a paint company, which in the Commission's order was required to discontinue offering and giving to employees of furniture manufacturing concerns, and others using their products, gratuities such as valuable presents or money for the purpose of influencing the employees to purchase respondent's product for their employers. The company's answer to the Commission's original complaint stated that it had been their practice to use the methods complained of, but that their policy had changed since the year 1917, no further

payment having been made to employees of purchasers to promote the sale of their products. The Commission in bringing the case to the Court's attention, however, presents evidence which it claims shows a clear disregard of the Commission's order as late as 1922 and 1923, by the payment of substantial sums of money to employees of customers. The Commission has accordingly applied to the Court to have the question determined and to enter a decree affirming the order of the Commission and requiring the paint company to comply herewith.

Copy of Code of Ethics Sent to Members

To each member of the Association there has been mailed a copy of the Association's Code of Ethics, printed in form and size suitable for framing. Already a number of members in acknowledging receipt of the Code, have written that it will be framed and given a prominent place in their offices. If any member has failed to receive his copy, please notify the Association so that another may be sent.

Dismisses Complaint Against Glass Company

Upon the recommendation of its Chief Counsel the Federal Trade Commission has dismissed its complaint against the Illinois Glass Company, of Alton, Illinois. The company is a manufacturer of various types of glass bottles and in the complaint was charged with acquiring shares of the capital stock of competing concerns which tended to make it a controlling factor in the glass bottle industry in the United States.

Freight Movement Continues Heavy

Freight loadings continue to exceed those of last year, the total for the week ending October 10 being 1,106,099 cars—the twelfth consecutive week of million car loadings. The total was a decrease of 6,364 cars under the preceding week this year, reductions having been reported in the loading of miscellaneous freight, grain and grain products and merchandise and less than carload lot freight. All other commodities, however, showed increases.

Tax Claims Against Bankrupt Estates

Under a decision of the U. S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, the United States is not bound by a bar order of a referee limiting the time within which claims can be filed against the estate of a bankrupt. Claims may be filed by the United States for taxes at any time before final distribution of the assets and take priority in payment to the extent of undistributed funds at the time when the claim is filed.

A referee is without authority to provide that a payment for taxes shall be in full of all claims of the United States for taxes. It is his duty to allow, disallow or modify the particular claim.

Pressure Tester to Determine Fruit Maturity

The U. S. Department of Agriculture has issued as Department Circular 350 an eight-page pamphlet giving a detailed description of an improved type of pressure tester for the determination of fruit maturity. The principle on which the tester works has already been used by western pear growers. Copies of the pamphlet can be obtained from the Department of Agriculture in Washington.

Federal Trade Commission Establishes Office in Seattle

The Federal Trade Commission has established a branch office at 425 Lyon Building, Seattle, Washington, with an attorney in charge, who will be available to business men of that section for consultation in connection with the laws administered by the Commission, particularly the law of unfair competition in trade and the Export Trade Act.

Marking of Condensed Milk in Turkey

Distributors of foreign condensed milk in Turkey have been ordered to paste on each can of milk a label in Turkish describing its contents, according to a report received by the U. S. Department of Commerce from the American consul in Constantinople.

Mexican Bean Beetle Spreads

The Insect Pest Survey Bulletin of the U. S. Department of Agriculture for October 1 states that the Mexican bean beetle is reported from the following additional counties in Indiana: Wayne, Dubois, Martin, Spencer, and Perry. In the current year it has extended its range westward in Kentucky to Christian, Hopkins, McLean, and Hancock Counties, and in Tennessee to Stewart, Benton, and Decatur Counties.

Retail Prices of Food in September

The retail food index issued by the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics shows for September 15, 1925, a decrease of 0.8 per cent since August 15, 1925; an increase of over 8 per cent since September 15, 1924; and an increase of 55 per cent since September 15, 1913.